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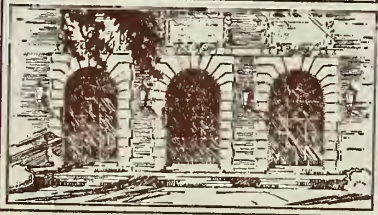
Our town: Libertyville, Ill.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1911




1911



# O U R T O W N



★ *Libertyville* ★



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# O U R T O W N

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THE STORY OF THE GROWTH  
AND DEVELOPMENT OF A  
TYPICAL AMERICAN TOWN

*Designed and illustrated by Glenn Price  
Narrated by Lowell Nye*

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LIBERTYVILLE • ILLINOIS





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J.H.S.

*Where the Urban Meets the Rural and the Best of the Two are Retained*

Up in the northeast corner of Illinois lies Lake county, a square-like section of land that is distinctive for its fifty or more natural bodies of water. A few miles southeast of the geographical center of this rolling lake-studded area lies Libertyville, a community whose population the 1940 Census placed at slightly less than 4,000. It is with this patriotically named village that "Our Town" proposes to deal.

Why choose this rather elaborate method, you may ask, of telling you about Libertyville? Why not—if we are so filled with the urge to put something down in black and white — just issue an inexpensive circular listing the bare facts? The answers to those logical questions are twofold:

First, our many residents who have contributed toward this booklet—thrifty and prudent as they are—would not be satisfied with anything of lesser quality. That we know.

Second, our prospective residents should be given the whole picture. The most gifted conversationalist often fails to do this, to say nothing of the poorer descriptive ability of most of us. When that happens, as it generally does, the injustice is worked, not upon you or me, but upon Libertyville. So we shall try here to give you the complete story in words and pictures of this typical American town—typical, we say, because it has a main street and a village park with a library, and small industries and substantial homes and surrounding farmland; yet distinctive (and this is why we are inspired to publish "Our Town") because it offers a philosophy, a way of living, that makes for the more happy, more fruitful life.

With that explanation, we ask you to sit down at your leisure and enjoy what we hope will be a friendly, unhurried visit with "Our Town."



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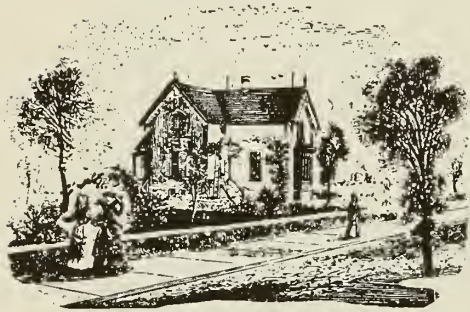
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# ★ *The Growth of an American Town* ★

The great old trees that arch their boughs over Libertyville streets today — if they only had a voice — could describe for you the founding of this typical American town far more accurately and vividly than

any of us now living. For the eldest of these trees were once part of a beautiful grove. The grove surmounted a low-rising hill that looked down, to the east, upon the meandering Desplaines river, and to the west, upon

a small lake girded by a narrow fringe of swampland.



**OLD ROAD TO THE INTERIOR** As the modern motorist has the urge to linger when he sees an unusually pretty group of trees, so also did the pioneers of the early 1800's, trudging north from Fort Dearborn, linger when they came upon this grove. They were attracted to it quite naturally. They had only to follow a trail of the Pottowatamie Indians who were using the grove as a camping ground.

**CURATIVE WATERS FOUND** An abundance of wild game and high ground were not the only attractions that the Indians found in this grove that was later to become the site of Our Town. The Pottowatamies stayed here, according to historic records, because they found certain springs along the west bank of the Desplaines river whose waters were said to have certain curative values. With this combination of physical assets, it was natural that the enchanting grove on the west side of the Desplaines should be destined as an ideal spot for human habitation!

There is the story, too, of a visit that the great French explorer, Chevalier De LaSalle, made to the grove and its springs in 1684 seeking the medicinal benefits of the waters, but we mention this only for the romantic background it offers.



*Political Speech on Milwaukee Avenue, in the early 1900s*

The mineral springs of this area, however, are by no means mythical. Their waters were sold by the Libertyville Mineral Springs Company which was active up to the 1900's, and distributed to many parts of the country.

**MILWAUKEE ROAD...STAGE COACH ROUTE** As more and more pioneer trains made the Indian trail through the grove a popular overland route to Milwaukee, it was finally established in June, 1836, as a stagecoach route. From this time forward it became known to travelers as "the Milwaukee Road." And to this day—105 years later—Milwaukee avenue remains the only road in the entire Libertyville area that has never been private property.

There, in brief, is the setting for the village of Libertyville. An attractive grove that had the double good fortune of being on the bank of a river where springs were found and also on a well traveled trail between two cities that were later to become great midwest commercial centers. The pioneers saw in the location a terrain that would never be menaced by floods and yet a place whose fertile soil would always support a thriving population.

**HOW THE TOWN WAS NAMED** The first white man's cabin was erected, legend reports, by an Englishman, George Vardin, who settled here in 1835. The site became known that year as "Vardin's Grove".

But the first indication that the grove was really to become a village was on July 4, 1836, when the settlers in this region gathered to dedicate a flagpole, and changed the name appropriately to Independence Grove.

The settlement prospered and the next year it was ready for a post office. A checkup by the federal authorities revealed there was another



Independence Grove in Illinois, so the name was again subject to change. A. B. Wynkoop, one of the first settlers, suggested the patriotic atmosphere of the previous name should be retained, since it was conceived on the Fourth of July, and offered "Libertyville". His neighbors liked it and the new post office was duly named Libertyville on April 16, 1837.

When the town, two years later, was chosen as the county seat, the commissioners gave it a fourth name, Burlington. This lasted until 1841 when Little Fort (Waukegan) became the county seat, and the name reverted permanently to Libertyville.

**EARLY SETTLERS** The test of a town's livability is the length of time that families continue to make it their home. If you find family names being perpetuated year after year and decade after decade in one community, you say that the community has a heritage, that its background is rich with family tradition. There must

have been something of enduring value in Libertyville, since the names of some of its settlers are being perpetuated today. Horace Butler, second lawyer in the county, besides naming the lake west of the village, left a family whose progeny have kept the Butler name alive. Lewis G. Schanck, another pioneer of the "Independence Grove" days, is perpetuated in the Schanck Hardware Co. Others of the early settlers included Bartlett, Steele, Foster, Irvin, Appley, Lloyd, Norton, and Crane. Dr. J. H. Foster was the first practicing physician in the county.

**EARLY HOMES** As these names have lived, so also did certain of the early homes. The old Allanson residence on the "flat iron" corner of Brainard and Maple avenues, the old French home on the west side of Milwaukee avenue north of Park avenue, and the former F. Z. Kimball house on West Church street are three of the first homes erected here that are still in use today.

*The past is part of our present . . . and our future*





*The Town Hall a Local Landmark*

**THE COOK RESIDENCE** The pride of Libertyville's oldest homes was, and still is, that of Ansel Brainard Cook. (Cook Memorial Library). Mr. Cook came to Libertyville in 1845 from Connecticut. He erected the Cook residence in the center of the village in the late 1860's. In the block-wide grounds surrounding the house he had collected some of the rarest plants and relics in northern Illinois. The stately old house, with its seven fireplaces and 10 rooms, was long a showplace of the county, and is still basically unaltered today. Mr. Cook, who was elected three times to the state legislature, died in 1898. His wife later bequeathed the property to the village to be used for park and library purposes.

**THE LAKE COUNTY FAIR** Back in the days before the automobiles, when a central location was more important than population, Libertyville was the home of the Lake County Agricultural Fair. Organized in 1852, the Agricultural Society had launched at least 45 successful fairs before the turn of the century. Besides permanent buildings the Lake County Fair at Libertyville contained a half-mile race track that was judged one of the best in northern Illinois. A booklet published in 1897 reported the officers at that date to be Byron Colby, president; E. W. Parkhurst, treasurer; and James M. Woodman, secretary. The society was disbanded in 1925.

**"MAIN STREET" BUILDINGS** Mention should be made in this historical section of some of the old store names that put Libertyville on the road toward being

the modern shopping center of today. Old Timers will recall them: Triggs & Taylor grocery-market; F. B. Lovell drugs and sundries (the name is still in use); Heath & Sons, furniture and undertaking; Woolridge & Wright, hardware; W. E. Davis general store; and others.

**THE LIBERTYVILLE FIRE** All of these stores, with the exception of Lovell Drug Store, were burned out in the Libertyville Fire of 1895. On August 31 a fire began in the business district that leveled 27 buildings, causing a total loss of nearly \$80,000. But as Chicago was said to have benefited in the end by its Great Fire, so also did Libertyville. New buildings went up immediately, and the best of them are still in use today. Among these are the Kennedy building, the Schanck and Eger buildings, the Knight block (erected before the fire), the Isaac Heath building and the Proctor block (Newcastle hotel).

**THE TOWN HALL** A year before the fire—1894—the Town Hall was erected. Its lasting brick-stone construction, which was designed by A. B. Cook, has made the Town Hall a true landmark of Libertyville. In the hall of this two-story structure, on North Milwaukee avenue, many lively meetings have moulded the early political sentiment of the county. Its full basement has been the scene of innumerable civic dinners and luncheons. The Town Hall today is under the supervision of the American Legion for use as its "home" and the township offices are located in a smaller building on the grounds.

**WE GET A RAILROAD** One of the most colorful chapters in the expansion of Libertyville was the laying of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad track into the village during the winter of 1879-80. It was colorful because it supplied a vivid example of how cooperation sometimes gets things done in a small town where individual effort fails. Here is the saga in brief note form: 1872—C. M. & St. P. R. R. Co. lays track through Libertyville township east of Desplaines river; 1878—people of Libertyville, finding it difficult to use a

*Right--The first schoolhouse in Libertyville*



*Left—The first postoffice, about 1840*

track that far away, elect committee of Col. E. B. Messer, G. H. Schanck, and Dr. Samuel Galloway to confer with railroad officials on question of getting a spur through the village; railroad agrees to run spur and provide one train daily if people will grade road, build bridge, and provide suitable depot grounds; community

forms company to accomplish same and the strenuous job of raising funds begins with Gen. Walter C. Newberry as president of drive; after obtaining the right-of-way, the laying of the spur gets under way and in May, 1880, the community holds a celebration when the first locomotive whistle blows in Libertyville!

The present Milwaukee

Road line, known as the Madison division, did not send trains through Libertyville until 1901.

**EXPANSION BEGINS** The railroad was the key to establishing Libertyville as a semi-rural shopping center. Farmers from the rich agricultural region to the west, northwest, and southwest brought their produce to

Libertyville. The railroad also meant an attractive location for industry.

#### FIRST INDUSTRIES

Libertyville's first industry was the Libertyville Metal Stamping company, opened in 1890 at the end of Broadway on the present site of Liberty lake. Its first products were bronzed likenesses of Grover Cleveland and Benjamin Harrison, who were then waging their campaigns for the presidency. One of the oldest industries from point of continuous service was the Laycock Steam Engine company, established to market the invention of William Laycock. The year 1905 saw the arrival of our two largest industries—Foulds Milling Co. and the American Wire Fence Co., the latter of which ceased operations during the Depression. (See Industries section.)

**FIRST SCHOOL, BANK, NEWSPAPER** Other important "firsts" in Libertyville are the school, the Lake County Bank, and the first newspaper. In the autumn of 1836, after the town had just been named "Independence Grove", a public subscription was taken to erect a school.



*"A charming trademark our visitors never forget" — The Library*





*Libertyville's first electric power house . . . now known as the Laycock Machine Shop*

Volunteer labor built the Block school where Cook avenue now runs. It was said to be the first in Lake county. The Lake County Bank was formed by Wright, Parkhurst & Co. in 1892. Henry McCullough issued the first newspaper, "The Libertyville Times", in 1881, which expired five years later. Oldest paper from the point of continuous publication was the "Lake County Independent" founded by H. C. Paddock in 1892 and sold to F. H. Just and James Woodman in 1896.

**ELECTRIC SERVICE IN 1896** Libertyville also acquired in 1896 its first electric light plant, operated by Lemuel Burge, and Milwaukee avenue was lighted by electricity a year later. The charge for bulbs to private consumers was \$6 per year.

Electricity in Libertyville gained momentum with each year's passing after 1896 and it was only seven years later—on Aug. 29, 1903—that the Chicago & Milwaukee Electric Railway opened the Libertyville spur from Lake Bluff. The company also erected a \$20,000 passenger station at that time which is used by

the North Shore Line today. The Mundelein branch was added two years later, and another fine station was erected in the smaller sister village to designate the end of the line.

**SAMUEL INSULL** did much to make Libertyville the community as we know it today. Many Chicagoans came to know Libertyville through the era of greatest expansion that began in the early 1920's. They came to know about us as a result of the energy and vision of one man who at that time was at the zenith of his power and popularity—Samuel Insull. The famed utility man, from his park-like estate, "Hawthorn Farm", on South Milwaukee avenue, took a genuine interest in Libertyville's future to the extent that we

obtained two of our finest buildings through his support, namely Condell Memorial hospital, and the Public Service building. Mr. Insull, who was founder of the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois, also brought about the high grade home development in Libertyville known as "The Highlands;" and the exclusive development "Countryside" west of Mundelein. He was instrumental in creating the Skokie Valley route of the North Shore Line, which makes it possible for business commuters from Our Town to board the "electric" here and be in Chicago in 52 minutes, with no transfers. If A. B. Cook was Libertyville's benefactor of the 1800's,



*The Original Lake County Bank*



Samuel Insull was our most valuable individual thus far in the 1900's. He died tragically on the steps of a Paris subway on July 16, 1938.

**WE OUTGROW THE "BOOM"** During the expansion period of the late twenties, several other modern and attractive business blocks were added to Our Town. Benjamin Dall created a lasting improvement for the north end of the business district when he erected the charming Dall building containing ten store fronts. On the south end of the district the Frank H. Bartholomay building with six stores and apartments stands as another welcome addition. John Roney completed this business expansion era with the Kroger building in the early thirties.

The period 1932-38 saw little change on the physical face of Libertyville, except for the erection of the Liberty theatre in 1936-37. This accomplishment, too, offers a characteristic sidelight in a small town's growth. Before he made the decision to present Libertyville with a new theatre, Fred W. Dobe, the owner, polled the community to learn whether or not it was satisfied with its existing moving picture facilities on the second floor of the large Gridley building. When he was assured that the Libertyville area would welcome and support a modern independent theatre, Mr. Dobe went ahead with



Left — The old Lake County Fair Grounds.



Right — the half mile track.

plans for a high grade building. With genuine "first night" pomp and ceremony, the Liberty theatre opened its doors on August 27, 1937.

As Libertyville mellowed, as its boom days slipped away into the all but forgotten era of the Twenties and early Thirties, its growth took on a different tone. The growth was more steady, more natural. This began in 1939, when construction started on the new A & P-Langworthy building, causing an unattractive gap in the row of substantial buildings on the west side of Milwaukee avenue to be filled. Along with the new stores, such as Jewel and Walgreen, have come new homes, new industries, including the Frank G. Hough Co. And the end is not yet in sight.

Our Town never expects to become great. It is happy with its growth only in this respect: the new people who have arrived in Libertyville came for the most part because of choice, and not compulsion. This is the way Our Town wants its growth to continue—steadily, simply, serenely—by those of us who enjoy the friendly way of life.



One of our finest business blocks, the Public Service building at Milwaukee and Church Street.

Electricity brings us modern conveniences, marching its power and transportation lines past our door.





# Libertyville Today



Commuter friends and neighbors of Libertyville residents frequently make comments like this:

“You’ve no idea how relaxing it is at the end of a busy day in Chicago to come to my home in Libertyville. The noise and bustle that surrounds me as I board the train in a crowded Loop station gradually subsides as we pass through the north shore towns, and as we turn west through the broad farmland, so calm and peaceful, the tightened muscles relax, and the brain slows to an easier pace.”

**IN THE CHICAGO AREA** That is Libertyville today. Only 35 miles from Chicago’s loop, we are a 45-minute motor jaunt or an hour by rail. For the motoring public and those who want to be near the lakes, our highway outlets are conveniently placed. All state and national routes are paved. Illinois 21, followed six miles to the northwest, strikes Grayslake and further up Antioch. Route 176 going west approaches Diamond Lake, Forest Lake, Sylvan Lake, Bang’s Lake in Wauconda — all stretched out along a 9-mile line. Truly, Libertyville is the “Gateway to the Lake Region.”

A map in this section shows you our proximity to the Shore Towns. Suffice it to say that Lake Michigan is six miles away, and that Lake Forest, with its nationally known college, is only 7½ miles by auto or rail.

**STEADY EMPLOYMENT** At North Chicago, which joins Waukegan on the south, are widely known industries including Abbott Laboratories, most of which employ

well-known Libertyville folk year after year. These industrial plants, along with the many types of work needed in local industries, have been excellent employment sources for all ages. Because of this generally high employment level in the “necessity” industries, this community has never been a victim of the extreme fluctuations that are found in communities known as one-industry towns.

**OUR COUNTRY ESTATES** Chicagoans know Libertyville by its beautiful country estates. As they drive north on Milwaukee avenue they are impressed by the deer park on J. C. Cuneo’s Hawthorn-Mellody dairy farm; by the lily pond and grounds on John D. Allen’s Allendale Farms; by the thoroughbred horses, worth thousands of dollars, feeding in the white-fenced pastures of Irving Florsheim’s Red Top Farm; and by the high stockade fence on the David Adler estate north of the village.

**FINE CATTLE AREA** Also prominent in our rural spotlight are the unique experimental farms. Quaker Oats company operates a large poultry farm west of the village from which a WLS radio program is broadcast weekly. Thomas E. Wilson and William Bartholomay, Jr., northeast of Libertyville, enjoy national reputations as importers and breeders of fine beef cattle. Earl Kane’s New Home Farm at Diamond Lake is famous for its purebred Guernsey herd and L. A. Huebsch & Son of Mundelein win the Illinois blue ribbon annually for their culture of hybrid corn and other crop seeds.





**“POOR MAN’S ESTATES”** Compromising, too, between these larger estates and farms are Libertyville’s “poor man’s estates” of one to twenty acres. Families of moderate incomes find these little plots the answer to their desire to have a home, a garden of flowers and vegetables, a few shade trees—and all of it “out in the country” with city conveniences. Blessed with easy access to electricity, these country homes around Libertyville not only are completely lighted but contain automatic pumps that supply good water from private, driven wells; gas appliances may also be used in many of them. The owners of these “poor man estates”, although they love the country, must be numbered among Our Town’s most energetic boosters. They “belong” as thoroughly and as intimately as any next door neighbor “belongs” to Our Town.

**THE SEMINARY** Standing out like a vast park in itself on Libertyville’s physical map is St. Mary-of-the-Lake Seminary, between this village and Mundelein. Founded in 1920 by the late George Cardinal Mundelein, archbishop of Chicago, the Seminary’s beautiful buildings and grounds were created at a cost of two and one-half million dollars. The Eucharistic Congress was held there in June, 1926.

**WHY WE ARE TYPICAL** Perhaps the one factor most evident to the newcomer who observes Libertyville’s population is its unusually pure American quality. Go down the list of names in the telephone book. Read them in the columns of the home town paper. You’ll find the Browns there, and the Taylors; the Wrights and the Cooks; the Rays and the Millers. But you won’t find any one name predominating. Libertyville is not a one-family town. Neither is it a one class nor a one nation

town. This is why we offer it as an American town that is genuinely American; its basic stock can be identified with no one nationality. Taken as a whole, it is a happy tolerant society; its life flows along pleasantly and serenely.

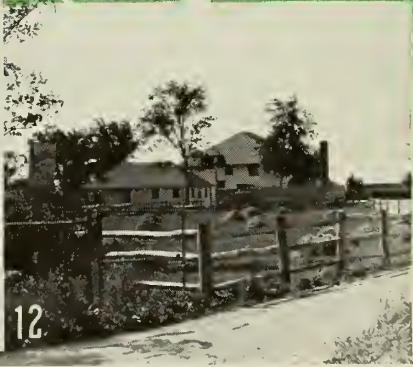
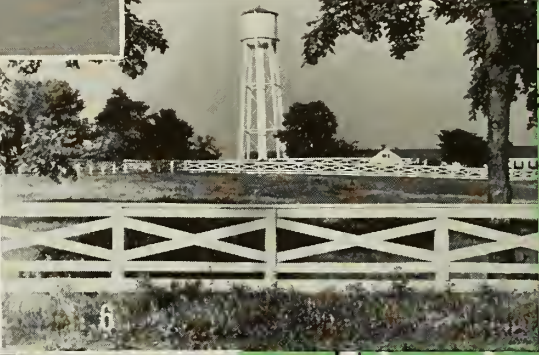
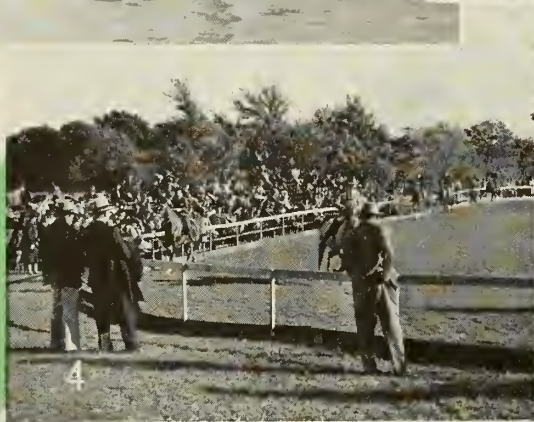
**MODERN SHOPPING CENTER** If you could take a birds-eye picture of Libertyville today and compare it with the same view of ten years ago, you undoubtedly would notice the greatest building additions along Milwaukee avenue. New homes, of course, would dot today’s picture but the real leadership in expansion would be in the business district along Our Town’s main street. Definite proof would such a comparison be that Libertyville today, more than ever before, is a modern shopping center.

What has been the cause of this expansion, aside from the fact that Libertyville is the largest town in central and western Lake county? What other reasons have made it the nucleus for a shopping population of 15,000 within a 10-mile radius?

First, Libertyville’s free parking facilities outstrip those of larger towns nearby. Through action by the village council, Our Town has secured for years to come a large free auto park in the heart of the shopping district that will accommodate nearly 300 cars. Thus, local merchants and officials working together have erased this vital question mark that is the plague of larger cities.

Another milestone in the progress of Libertyville was the creation of a Merchants’ Association which has brought the business men closer together. Today the Association conducts its own campaigns and has a long list of accomplishments already to its credit. It has made the entire district more friendly, and also more aggressive.







1—Swimmers at Liberty Beach. 2—Milwaukee Avenue, Libertyville, looking north. 3—Skokie Highway. 4—A Libertyville Horse Show. 5—Serbian Monastery. 6—Red Top Farm. 7—Snow on the Desplaines. 8—Countryside Golf Course. 9—Bobsled Party. 10—Daisy field on Rockland Road. 11—St. Mary-of-the-Lake Seminary. 12—Allendale Farms.



# A Friendly Community



Wars, depressions, prosperity come and go, but as you look back over the years you find life has been happy or sad in proportion to the number and quality of friends you possess. Most of us like to live where we have friends. We continue to get a real pleasure, day after day, out of calling our neighbors and fellow residents by their first names.

**THIS IS IMPORTANT!** With this close keen friendship in Our Town comes drama—a kind of drama that may be quite foreign, perhaps, to the sophisticated lives of big city dwellers. Births and deaths, marriages and graduations, new jobs, failures, victories—all take on greater significance here. Because our picture of life is simpler, the human factor to us is more clean cut.

This is why we are taking a section of "Our Town" to describe how we are friendly. When a small town loses friendliness, it loses the lifeblood of its existence and its future. Folks who live here year after year will bear out that statement. And so we devote this section to friendliness because it is important to us.

One of the things newcomers like about "Our Town" is the clubs. Most of them are easy to join and we have them for all age groups. Every so often somebody says we have too many of them. That should be a pretty good indication that Libertyville has an abundance of friendliness.

We'd like to tell you something about a few of these clubs.

**LIBERTYVILLE WOMAN'S CLUB** Serving as a nucleus of contacts for other activities in the community is the Libertyville Woman's Club. This organization includes a membership of 175, and is open to application by any

*Community Groups Unite to Present Great Benefit Show . . . "Minstrels of 1941" at high school gymnasium*



woman interested in contributing to and benefiting by activity with other progressive women. Associated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the local group is well organized, and presents programs of outstanding interest and superior quality at the regular bi-monthly meetings. The Woman's Club is growing—keeping pace with this expanding suburban community and our stimulating, changing world.



*Re-stocking Liberty Lake Libertyville*

**LIBERTYVILLE LIONS CLUB** One of the most active groups in the community is the Libertyville Lions Club. The local unit of this great international service organization conducts weekly meetings, which have become forums for the presentation of important and interesting topics. The Lions Club has sponsored and conducted many projects for the development of Libertyville as a community of happy residents. This book is the result of its efforts to inform all who are interested of the advantages which Libertyville has to offer. The Club's motto is "Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation's Safety".

**'LIBERTYVILLE POST 329'** You all know the American Legion. Libertyville's Post 329 has enjoyed for the past two years a record membership which the officers claim is about 100 per cent for this community. The local Post has a fine record for community service and frequently does something to prove its worth. For the past few years, the Legion has maintained and kept up as a home one of our historic landmarks, the old Town Hall. Their old time dances every Saturday night during the cooler months enjoy a county-wide patronage.

**'LIBERTYVILLE DAYS'** Speaking of the Legion it deserves mention for its conduct of Libertyville Days, annual festival and field day that the entire community turns out to support. Helping to make this and similar events successful is the loyal cooperation—always—of

local merchants through their donations of merchandise prizes and other valued assistance.

**MASONIC LOOGE** Our Masonic lodge has its points too. First of all comes the classical Masonic Temple on Brainard avenue south of the Post Office. The community is proud of that modern building, and especially of the lodge room with its arched roof, snow white plaster walls and indirect high-low lighting. The large basement dining hall has been a boon on more than one occasion for groups planning large dinners.

The Masonic lodge is celebrating this year its 75th Anniversary in Libertyville. Its annual installation of officers is a major social event of the year.

**LIBERTYVILLE COMMUNITY CLUB** For young men—and men who want to stay young—interested in sport and public recreation, the Libertyville Community Club offers an inviting channel for companionship. Although its annual membership is only a dollar, the Community Club operates on a solid business basis the year around through the income from benefits, including a carnival, a bowling tournament, collections from baseball and basketball games, and other methods. The Community Club and the Legion, working in close harmony, have done some exceptionally fine cooperative work.

**THE VILLAGE PLAYERS** The wave of popularity that “little theatres” are now enjoying has made a surprisingly large number of newcomers dramatically minded. Proof of this is seen in the membership of The Village Players, community drama group, and in their finished public productions, the casts of which each year contain new faces along with the more veteran acting members. The

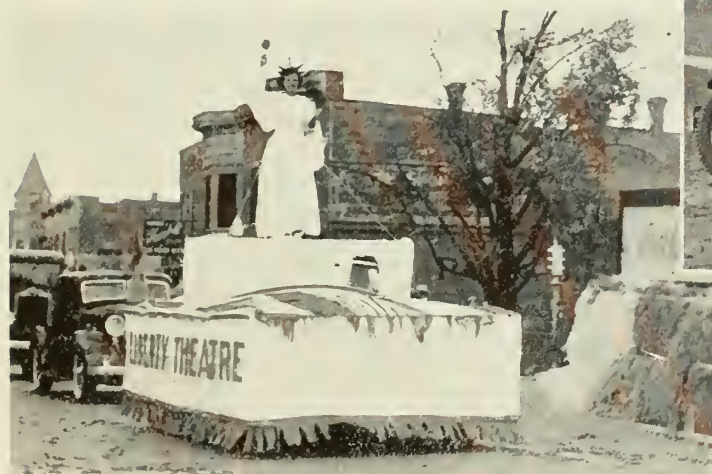
Village Players in the last two or three years have presented plays of such calibre as “You Can’t Take It With You,” “Night Must Fall,” “A Bill of Divorcement,” and a number of one-act plays. They employ a paid director for their major productions.

The clubs we mention here are typical of the non-sectarian, purely community type of organization. Libertyville also has its church societies, guilds, leagues, and groups. Strangers in the respective parishes are welcome to make application for membership in the church groups.

**OUR CHARMING ‘TRADEMARK’** Friendliness is an atmosphere. It must be created, not alone through individual contact, but by certain tangible devices. Foremost of these in Libertyville is Cook Park and Cook Memorial Library. In the cool shade of this verdant square flanking Milwaukee avenue, the passing motorist and his family are invited to stop and rest. Because Cook Park is always kept neat and trim, it stands out from season to season as the beauty spot in the heart of our village activity. The Library in its center—white pillared like a stately southern mansion—is a free institution maintained through village and township taxes. Band concerts are presented from its terrace during July and August. Truly Cook Park and Cook Library are Libertyville’s trademark—a charming combination that our visitors never forget.

**LIBERTYVILLE MUNICIPAL BAND** The band concerts, incidentally, are the product of the Libertyville Municipal band, a tax supported organization that we also rely on for martial music on Memorial Day, Armistice Day,

*Homecoming for L.T.H.S. — a community celebration. Here is one of the typical floats in the mile-long parade.*

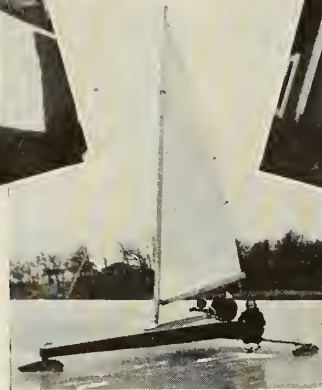


*An organization destined for an important place in the future progress of Libertyville — the Community Club — opens the new ball diamond in Butler Park, assisted by the local firemen and village officials.*



Dance at  
the high school

Iceboat on  
Diamond  
Lake



A winner in  
Christmas contest

and other parade occasions. The director, P. G. Snow, is president of the Illinois Department, American Federation of Musicians. The lead clarinetist, Julian DePaepe, is a band music composer of some note.

**FRIENDLY STORES** This section of Our Town would not be complete without a word for the friendliness you find in our business district. In most stores, the clerks greet customers by their names. You will always find the financial institutions, the restaurants and food stores, the drug stores, apparel shops, and other furnishing stores ready to do their bit in making you feel "at home."

**NO CHANCE TO BE BORED!** Throughout this section, you have noted some of the traditional customs practiced in making Our Town a friendly community. We haven't

named them all. We haven't told you about our Homecoming with its mile-long float parade. All of our industries and trades get behind this colorful event in great fashion. We haven't mentioned the street and home decorations contest at Christmas time.

What we **HAVE** told you about Libertyville in this section, however, should make one point clear: It is because we work hard to keep our town lively that it is growing, prosperous, and independent today. We have found there are certain human values **WE** want, and we don't propose to go somewhere else to find them. So we create them, and keep them alive, right here in Libertyville from year to year. As a consequence, we always have "something doing." And since we are constantly seeing the whole picture, rather than just a part, there is small chance, indeed, that we will ever become bored!

*Started by WPA, the Butler Park area on West Lake street remains for future development.*





A proud moment for Our Town. The 80-piece L.T.H.S. band leading the annual Homecoming Parade

★ *“As the Twig is bent . . . .”* ★

The rearing of children is a more serious problem today than it was during the preceding generations. Conscientious mothers and fathers know this. Many of our newer families came to Libertyville, not because Dad was looking for a new job or because Mother wanted to crash society, but because both parents realized that the children would get a better start. They were sold on Libertyville, not as a place to WORK, but as a place to LIVE.

Libertyville has much to offer the growing family in the way of wholesome living, be the children mere infants or ready for college. Our schools, naturally, constitute our first pride. Supplementing their work are the Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops, the Libertyville Boys Club, and other activities.

**THE BOY SCOUTS** The Boy Scout troops, with the exception of our Community Club pack sponsored by the American Legion, are founded and supported by the churches. The Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Catholic parishes all have their troops and all boys

are welcome to join them. The Girl Scout troop, also very active, is operated on a non-sectarian basis and meets in the village hall.

**LIBERTYVILLE BOYS' CLUB, INC.** Our Boys' Club, which operates on a year round basis and maintains its own summer camp in northern Wisconsin, has won a truly enviable reputation by virtue of its boxing team. Through the high-minded and strenuous efforts of its coach, (who is a Chicago attorney), manager, and Board of Directors, the boxing team has built up a record of no defeats during the past three years. Its opponents have been such renowned schools as Culver and Mar-mion military academies, Central YMCA of Toronto, Canada; the Chicago Boys Club and other Chicago teams. Its average following is about 850 at each series of bouts. With all this activity, and in the face of a 3-night-a-week training schedule, the team has yet to mark up its first serious injury—proof enough, it would seem, that the “manly art of self defense” as practiced here is a safe, excellent sport.



Football game at L.T.H.S. — The Libertyville high school has the largest football turnout annually in the Northeast conference. Lively school spirit supports the Wildcats at all their games.



Of all community sports, boxing as conducted by Libertyville Boys' Club has given Libertyville an enviable reputation throughout the Chicago area.



Boy Scouts Deliver Baskets . . Carolers under Cook Park Tree . . Tiny Tots at Birthday Party . . Skaters in Butler Park Lagoon

**SCHOOLS WITH REPUTATIONS** And now for Libertyville schools. We might say, first of all, that our school system is an important factor in attracting new families. Somehow, the newcomers always seem to have heard of Libertyville schools before they actually move here. The word, apparently, has gotten around that we have something unusually good in the way of elementary and high school education. We hope these pictures and this story will tell you why our school system is among the best.

**GRAMMAR SCHOOLS** We have two public grade schools, housed in modern buildings. Besides the Three "R's", these schools offer music, kindergarten, art, athletics, and craft study. Together they accommodate over 500 pupils annually. For Catholic families there is St. Joseph's parochial school with its enrollment of over 100. Our grade schools nearly always place high in any competitive work they enter against other schools of their size.

"L. T. H. S." We regret that we cannot devote more space to Libertyville Township High School. Our pride in the institution, with its near capacity enrollment last

year of 515, is justifiable when you consider the excellence of its individual departments. The 1500-seat new gymnasium is packed when the 80-piece uniformed band holds a concert. The football team is a consistent winner of championships. The dramatics department presents plays constantly above the usual high school level, which draw from 300 to 500 persons each night. These are the high spots. Scholastically, LTHS rates from 7th to 11th among 258 high schools in an annual intelligence test.

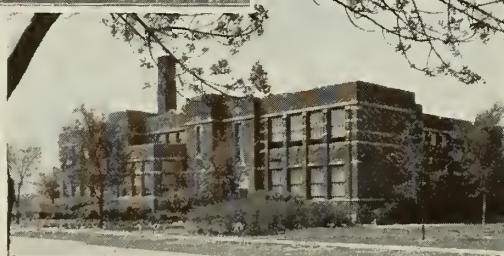
High mark of community support behind LTHS is the Homecoming parade and football game in October which, we think, is worth anybody's time to see.

**ON TO COLLEGE!** A word about Libertyville's college facilities. Within a 35-mile radius are the following institutions: Northwestern University, Lake Forest college, Barat college, Loyola University, De Paul University, Sacred Heart college, Lake College of Commerce, and the various Chicago business schools. There are special student rates on the North Shore Line electric road, which has made a college education possible to more of our young people.



St. Joseph's  
Parochial

Rockland  
Public School



New Central  
Public School

Libertyville  
High School







# *Churches the Cornerstone of the Community*



If Libertyville is a town with individuality, if it seems to have a definite character of independence and permanence, a part of that character is in its churches. And here is another significant fact: While six different sects are represented here, no particular sect predominates. So far as religion is concerned, this community is indeed symbolical of America as a whole. The parishes are well balanced; you are at complete liberty to worship where you please.

**SIX CREEDS REPRESENTED** The churches are St. Joseph's Catholic, St. Lawrence's Episcopal, the First Methodist, the Presbyterian, and St. John's Lutheran. The sixth body is represented in the Christian Science society.

Each of the Libertyville churches has an active social program, which includes benefit suppers, meetings, athletics, charity drives, etc.

All are well maintained and improvements are made from time to time. This in itself would indicate a generally high religious tone. Incidentally, the very grouping of Our Town's churches—all of them clustered neatly in the center of the community — plays an unconscious but important role in giving Our Town a solidifying unity.

**RELIGIOUS POINTS OF INTEREST** The area surrounding Libertyville is also unique from a religious point of view. To the north of us stands the Serbian monastery and chapel of St. Sava, with its minareted towers and white plaster walls—a truly picturesque scene for the motorist on Milwaukee avenue. East of St. Sava, on the other side of the Desplaines lies Doddridge farm, a Catholic Youth Organization camp. And to the west are the Benedictine Convent with its Shrine of Perpetual Adoration, and St. Mary-of-the-Lake Seminary.



*St. Lawrence's Episcopal*

*First Methodist*



*First Presbyterian*

*St. Joseph's Catholic*



*St. John's Lutheran*





*Libertyville Police Force*

## ★ *A Municipal Organization Free From Politics* ★

The heading for this page may sound contradictory, but it is true. Libertyville has no "machine politics." There is no "boss" who has usurped special power. The gentlemen on our village council are thrifty, conservative businessmen, and their administration has kept us free from bonded debt. It is due to the organization of our council, incidentally, consisting of a president and six trustees, that we refer so frequently to Libertyville as a "village". Perhaps it is closer to being in the small city class.

**TWO-WAY RADIO** The police department, pictured on this page, is unusually well equipped to protect the community. Its two-way radio connection, night and day, with the Lake County sheriff's office, makes Libertyville part of the blockade that has shown its efficiency in catching auto thieves and other criminals.

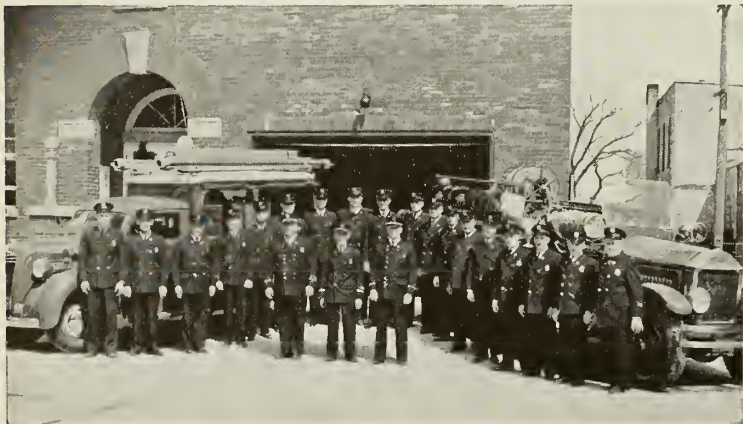
The council's chosen policy of operating on a strictly pay-as-you-go basis has made for thriftiness in each department. The regular monthly meetings are models of parliamentary procedure and the members work in a prevailing spirit of harmony.

**FIRE—WATER—STREETS** The fire department, housed in the village building, consists of a fire truck and the auxiliary truck with its floodlights, inhalator, a pulmotor. An excellent morale has been maintained among the firemen, making for quick efficient service at all calls.

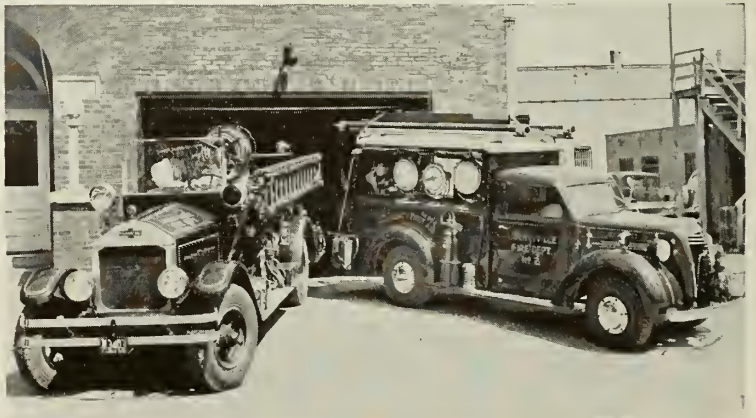
Libertyville's unlimited water supply comes from artesian wells. Frequent analyses by the state laboratories keep us constantly informed as to its purity.

Again modern equipment, such as a sidewalk snow plow, a power street sweeper, sturdy trucks and a capable staff have brought about this general satisfaction. The streets are lighted from dusk to dawn.

*Fire Protection . . Complete and Efficient . . for Folks in Our Town*



*Floodlights, inhalator devices supplement Libertyville fire equipment*



★ *Light Industries Attracted to Libertyville* ★

It is not necessary, under this heading, to attempt to "prove" that industries of all kinds are seeking locations in the smaller American towns. This trend toward decentralization has become apparent during the past few years. Nowhere is it more true than in Libertyville which because of its proximity to Chicago and its desirable labor supply, has been the choice of a half dozen new small industries during the past two years.

**WHAT WE OFFER** First, Libertyville has adequate shipping facilities. The steam and electric railroads have extended sidings to the very doors of our most permanent industries. The Chicago Outer Belt Line also skirts the Libertyville area. Paved highways for trucks run north, south, east, and west out of the community and Skokie road, the 4-lane highway between Chicago and Milwaukee, is less than four miles to the east.

Second, property costs and taxes are low and there are a number of vacant and improved sites to choose from for building purposes. The fact that the village has no bonded indebtedness and that it operates on a

pay-as-you-go basis would indicate that the municipal taxes will remain low during the predictable future. A plentiful and reliable source of inexpensive electric power has been another important factor.

**INDUSTRIES NAMED** Leading the current list of Libertyville industries is Foulds Milling Co., whose gold and blue packages of macaroni, spaghetti, and egg noodle products are familiar to housewives throughout the nation. The Foulds plant normally employs about 140. The Frank G. Hough Co., makers of excavating machinery, street sweepers, etc., has a payroll of approximately 40 and is considering the expansion of their attractive quarters here. Scale-Craft & Co. is a "hobby" industry that manufactures the tiny individual parts for model trains and they also employ about 40. Libertyville Textiles, Inc., is a hustling rug factory. General Metalcraft Corp. makes fluorescent light reflectors and associated products. Of the newest arrivals — Anchor Coupling Co., the Chicago Match Co., and Brown Paper Goods Co. together employ 100 or more.

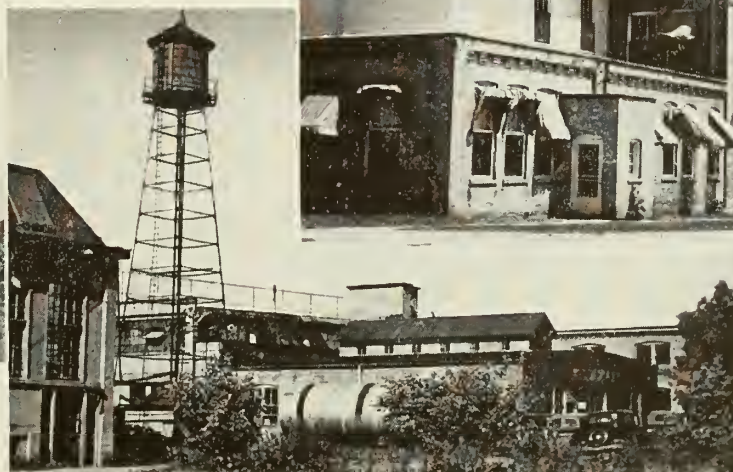


*The Frank G. Hough Co.  
East Sunnyside Avenue*

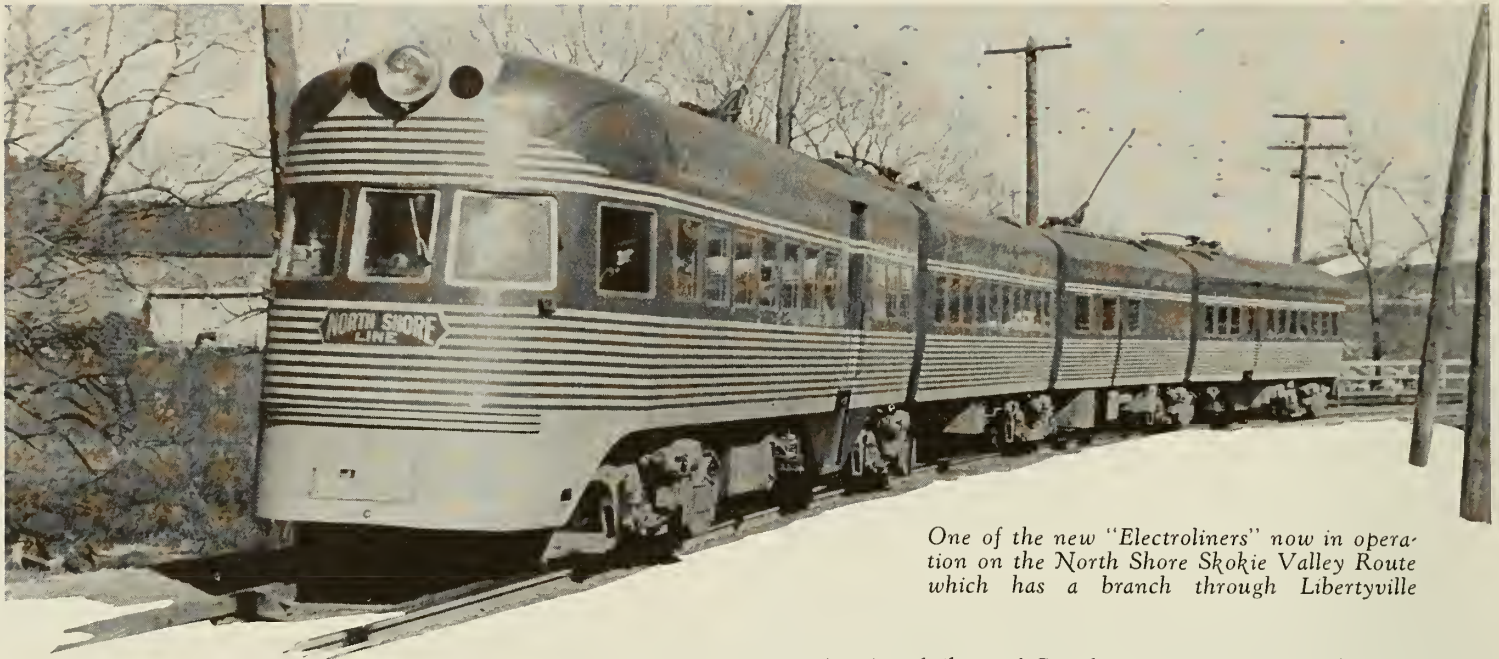
*Below: Foulds Milling Co.  
East Church Street*



*Libertyville Textiles, Inc.  
North Fifth Street*



*Left:  
Brown Paper Goods Co.  
and  
Scale-Craft & Co.  
East Church Street*



One of the new "Electroliners" now in operation on the North Shore Skokie Valley Route which has a branch through Libertyville

## ★ Transportation ★

Here is one of the most important reasons why Libertyville's expansion has been of a comparatively steady type: The community has excellent transportation facilities.

The time table on this page, incomplete though it is due to space limitations, shows the prospective commuter resident what is available by way of rail transportation. Nearly 250 business men and women use the steam and electric railways daily to go to their work in Chicago and the shore towns.

**COMMUTER RATES** Besides these carriers, of course, are three north-and-south highways for those who drive to work, namely, Milwaukee avenue, Waukegan road, and Skokie highway, the latter two of which are four-lane all the way to Chicago.

The railroads both offer special commuter rates in the form of weekly tickets. The North Shore Line

maintains daily and Sunday service at its modern station on South Milwaukee avenue. The Milwaukee Road's office, on North Milwaukee avenue, is also open daily.

### TIME TABLE

(Daylight Saving Time) as of Aug. 1, 1941

Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee Electric Line SKOKIE VALLEY ROUTE		Chicago, Milwaukee, & St. Paul Steam Line	
DIRECT		DIRECT	
TO CHICAGO	FROM CHICAGO	TO CHICAGO	FROM CHICAGO
*6:25 a. m.	*6:23 a. m.	5:37 a. m.	7:50 a. m.
*7:06	8:10	6:18	12:20 p. m.
*7:31	11:20	7:07	2:55
*8:17	Sat. 12:15 p. m.	7:49	4:51
9:36	only 1:15	8:29	5:15
12:40 Noon	2:40	11:15	5:45
4:40 p. m.	4:20	3:14 p. m.	9:30
6:40	*4:48	8:20	11:46
s 10:09	*5:15	Weekly ticket, \$3.13	
* Daily except Sunday	*5:38	All times Daily except Sunday. The 7:49 train, fastest one to Chicago, is a 53-minute ride, arriving at 8:42 a. m.	
	6:08		
s Sunday only	8:15		
	10:05		
	11:35		
	Weekly ticket, \$3.13		

In addition to the above, the North Shore Line has "local" and "Shore Route" trains that stop at all points along the North Shore.

Boarding the North Shore Electric



"The Milwaukee Road"



## *And these Round Out the Community* ★ ★

As you near the conclusion of this armchair visit with Our Town, we want to tell you something about the public and semi-public institutions that contribute fundamentally in making our picture a complete one, so far as its being an independent community is concerned

**THE THEATRE** The Liberty theatre, which celebrated its fourth birthday this August, is admired by all for its ultra modern design, comfortable 700-seat capacity, and consistently satisfying programs. Because it was built specifically as a motion picture house, its sound and projection equipment are of the best. Naturally it is air conditioned. An unusual feature is the Liberty's large parking area on both sides and in the rear. Efficient management has given it a loyal patron list, not only from the Libertyville - Mundelein community but from Grayslake, Round Lake, Wauconda, Lake Forest and other nearby towns.

**THREE GOLF COURSES** Continuing in the line of recreation are the several 18-hole golf courses in this locality. Libertyville Country Club, on route 21 north, is a public fee course known for its sporty water holes, excellent fairways and greens. Dinners and lunches may be obtained at the family type clubhouse. To the west of Libertyville is Countryside golf course. East of Libertyville on route 176 lies Knollwood Country Club.

**THE HOSPITAL** Condell Memorial hospital, built by public subscription and funds contributed by Elizabeth Condell in 1926, has become the accepted medical center for central and western Lake county. Its patient list during the past two years has averaged 525 per year. It is community-owned, the directing board being elected by members of the hospital association. Its modern equipment meets all requirements and new equipment added from year to year has caused Condell hospital to be generally recognized to the extent that another wing is being considered by the board.

**NEWSPAPERS** Libertyville has two weekly newspapers. The Independent-Register, a regular 8-column size paper, is now in its fiftieth year. Its political leanings are Republican. The Libertyville News, an independent, 5-column tabloid size paper, recently marked its eighth anniversary. Both papers are printed locally by separate firms. Both are equipped with their own cameras and carry pictures of local news events in almost every issue.



*For those who love the cinema, Libertyville offers an excellent  
New theatre showing the latest pictures*



*Golfers at Libertyville Country Club*



*Condell Memorial hospital serves the entire Libertyville area*

# Ready for Tomorrow

—And here, finally, is the most important page!

Every community has its dreams. If we tell you here what some of the people in Libertyville are dreaming of having, and what visions they are already working out into realities, you will be left with an interesting impression of the character of Our Town. You all know that it takes hard work and planning and patience to make dreams come true. The men and women who are working hard and patiently on community projects in Our Town do not get paid for it in money. They do it because they have the urge to serve. They see in Libertyville a town not stagnant, like a still pool of water, but a town growing and flexible, like a clear flowing stream. They see the opportunity to build. And so they stay here from one decade into the next, finding always that their lives have meaning and purpose.

**CHOICE HOMESITES** In a description of how we are “ready for tomorrow” these items come first:

1. Paved residence streets bordered by choice vacant homesites—beautifully located for new home construction. We refer to the Highlands, Oakwood Terrace, Copeland Manor, Kenlock Park.

2. A new Libertyville Fire Protection District to give our neighbors outside the village the same protection enjoyed by residents within the village limits.

**GREATER PARK AREA** 3. Unusually large park area for future development. Acquisition of vast Butler Park with its 137 acres (besides Cook and Central Park in

the village) gives Libertyville 35 acres for every 1,000 of its population. The Regional Planning Association recommends a ratio of 10 acres for every 1,000 of anticipated population. We have more than tripled that. Our Town has taken hold of Butler Park to the extent that a baseball field is completed, and tennis courts and picnic grounds are being placed. This may not appear to be a spectacular beginning on so large a project, but it IS a start. Once citizens of Libertyville have put their labor and money into a project, they eventually see it through.

4. New Central grade school. This \$100,000 building, recently completed, supplies modern educational quarters and completes our school building program.

5. A semi-public flying field. A local business man has begun this enterprise by erecting a hanger west of the village.

6. A community house. Several civic organizations have shown interest in establishing a modern community house and it is probable that definite action will be taken in the near future.

Here, then, is Libertyville, Illinois, 1942. As it lies near the center of Lake county, rearing its water tower high above the verdant grove that attracted its first settlers 105 years ago, Libertyville stands today as the typical American town. Its chief elements are cleanliness, old-fashioned independence, and friendliness. We do not offer glamour and bright lights. What we DO offer is life in the genial mood—that kind of life that has been the bulwark of a great and free nation.

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BE OBTAINED BY WRITING LIBERTYVILLE LIONS CLUB,  
LIBERTYVILLE, ILLINOIS

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*Where the Urban Meets the Rural  
and the Best of the Two are Retained*







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